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Letter dated 18 July 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I should like to inform you that on 23 and 24 June 2002 Turkish armed forces bombarded villages and surrounding areas in the Kani Rash region, wounding three citizens and setting fire to crops. A Turkish force also penetrated into our national territory on 28 June 2002 and took up positions in the area between Batufah and Kani Masi on the pretext of being in pursuit of elements of the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK).

Turkey's armed incursions into the territory of the Republic of Iraq are acts of aggression, and they endanger peace and security in the region. The claim to be in pursuit of outlaw elements cannot justify the invasion of the territory of a neighbouring State. The Republic of Turkey must bear full legal responsibility for these acts of aggression, and Iraq affirms its right to claim compensation for the damage they do to it and to its citizens.

We appeal to you to intervene with a view to halting and ensuring that there is no recurrence of these Turkish acts of aggression, which are in flagrant violation of the Charter of the United Nations, public international law and international humanitarian law.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Abdul Munim **Al-Kadhe**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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